



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

Vol. 32 #2

343 King's Highway East

May, 1987

THE DRAMA OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

John Reisner, III

Thursday, May 21, Haddonfield Borough Hall

Two hundred years ago 55 men assembled in Philadelphia to amend the Articles of Confederation. John Reisner, III will focus on the events that made the convention necessary, the people who met there, and the exceptional circumstances under which the Constitution was ratified. As a lawyer and town planner, John Reisner is a man of many interests, is conversant with the legal aspects of the Constitution, is intrigued by the times and events, the temperaments and personalities of the delegates which ultimately led to the hammering out of what today is the oldest written instrument of government.

A witty, urbane speaker, John Reisner will reveal the Constitution in a new light to Society members on May 21.

NOTES FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee had an appreciation dinner on March 30, 1987 for "History Come Alive" docents, celebrating 5 years of taking enrichment programs to our local schools. Attending this function, which was organized by Robin Spence, were Fran Lunsford, Nancy Weber, Kathy Tassini, Mary Beck, Debbie Moore, Diane Snodgrass, Jeannette Woehr. Rosalie Scotti and Myra Kain were unable to attend, but have contributed to the program.

Fran Lunsford and Nancy Weber are planning an informational brunch sponsored by the Education Committee to attract new docents for "History Come Alive". This hopefully will be in May with the time and date to be announced. Publicity will be in the local paper and flyers which will be distributed through the nursery schools, mother's morning out and the elementary schools.

A pilot program for third grade is being planned for the next school year, 1987-88. The topic will be Woodwind Instruments.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Members of our Nominating Committee are: Mrs. W. Hilbert, Chairman; Mrs. Dorothy McGlade, Mrs. William Moody, Stuart Lyons and John Reisner, III. Their slate of officers will be presented at our September meeting and elections will be in November in accordance with the By-Laws.

From the President:

Spring seems to be here in full force and, as Nature puts on a new face, we are happy to say that our Society headquarters will also have a new look. Within the next few weeks, Greenfield Hall will be repainted and, added to the interior work done during the past winter, the physical appearance of our building should be a credit to the Society.

If any of our members are looking for places to visit or things to do, check the Calendar Bulletin Board which has been placed in Greenfield Hall kitchen. All the activities of the Society are listed as well as activities of other near-by societies and "Open Houses." There are lots of special events which might be of interest to our members!

Shortly, each of our Society members will receive a letter asking them to complete and return a questionnaire. Yes, we are planning to make a survey of our membership. We would stress the importance of this from the Society's standpoint. As mentioned in our last Bulletin, we want to involve more people actively. But to do this, we have to know more about our members and determine the base on which to work. We'd like to know who have financial expertise, who are interested in teaching and could help with the educational programs or serve as docents, who have experience or interest in building and maintenance programs, etc. Name it - and we'd like to know! This information will be of invaluable help in setting up committees, to our nominating committee as they seek officers, and in realizing the potential of our membership. Please help us by taking time to fill out the form and return it. We can't involve those who want to be active unless we know the fields in which they are interested - and all we can do is ask. The rest is up to you.

Suggestion was made at a recent Council meeting that the Fall might be a good time to initiate an Historical Society trip - perhaps a tour of homes and a lovely lunch in some particular area. It has been many years since our Society has planned anything of this type. Further consideration will be given to this and a future bulletin will advise.

Last but not least, we would like to proffer thanks this month to Jack Wood and Larry Test for replacing the rubber cups on all our folding chairs. This was a much needed repair job and will protect the finish on floors and save wear and tear on carpets. Another thank you goes to Tom Applegate for replacing the badly rotted and unsafe steps at the front of the Hip Roof House. We want these people to know that the services were most appreciated.

Mary Carll, President

FASHIONS IN MILLINERY

A special collection of hats is on display in the Case Room of Greenfield Hall until mid-May. Arranged by Exhibits Chairperson Jeannette Woehr it includes headgear, jackets and a selection of parasols.

ANNUAL JUNE FESTIVAL
June 6, 1987 10 - 2 p.m.

The Women's Committee is already planning its Annual June Festival. The theme this year is "We the People - 200" and is in the capable hands of Mabel Kay, whose phone number is (609) 429-6181.

We're looking forward to all members helping us in supplying perennials from their gardens for our Plant Booth. Buyers will love the colorful variety of flowers offered. .

Remember, too, in our Vegetable Booth we will have our usual lucious asparagus and strawberries.

We hope all members will help in donating Jewelry, Baked Goods (pickles and preserves too). Please scour your attics, cellars and kitchens for those pots and pans, dishes, appliances and anything else you care to donate to our Famous Garage Sale.

We'll be in the garage accepting your donations on Saturday, May 23, Saturday, May 30th and the week of June 1st each day from 10 - 12 noon.

See you there!

Dot Sherrerd

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HELP!

All members will soon receive a letter and resource questionnaire in the mail. The Board of Trustees urges you to take a few moments to complete and return it to the Historical Society. This information is crucial to establish a data base from which your Board can better serve your interests.

Dianne Snodgrass
Mickey Mack
Debbie Mervine
Pat Lennon
Lou Mountney

GENEOLOGICAL QUERIES

HUTCHINS, HUTCHENS, HUTCHINGS, HUTCHINSON. All New Jersey information requested to include in a book written about the family by author Jack Randolph Hutchins. Please send this and any geneological inquiries to the editors - Betty and George Lyons, 217 Homestead Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN IS AUGUST 10, 1987

A STREET CALLED TREATY ELMS

Trustee Mary Jane Freedley was browsing through the Historical Society Library when she read a story she suggested be shared with other Haddonfield residents.

In 1682 William Penn and the Indians sealed an agreement in which they promised to live as friends as long as the sun should shine above and the waters in the rivers flow. This treaty was made beneath an elm tree, now known as the Treaty Elm in Shackamaxon, Philadelphia. The scene was the subject of a painting by the famous artist, Benjamin West.

Years later in the early 1900s a Camden physician, Dr. Richard Cooper, took seedlings from this tree and planted them in Johnson Park, Camden. When they grew he gave two of the small trees to Ephraim Tomlinson Gill of Haddonfield who planted them on his land, Haddon Farms, in memory of his father, John Gill 5th and his mother, Elizabeth Tomlinson Gill. When the original Gill estate was sold for development purposes, it was requested that the two trees be kept.

Harry Chew, a Haddonfield realtor, developed the tract and named one of the streets Treaty Elms Lane for the two trees. He subsequently decided to build a house on one parcel of the land himself, and because he could not advantageously place his house because one of the trees was in the way he had it moved to another location on the property at much personal expense.

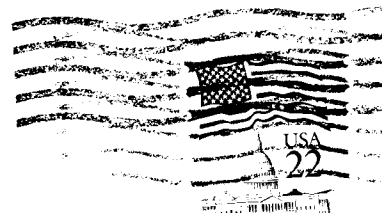
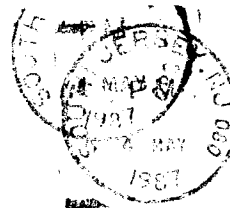
Treaty Elms Lane still has large elm trees, a reminder of our Quaker-Indian colonial history.

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Greenfield Hall

343 King's Highway East, Haddonfield, New Jersey

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